

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 are pending. By this Response, claims 1, 4 and 8 are amended and claim 3 is cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above-amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Title

The Office Action asserts that the title is not descriptive. In response, applicants have incorporated the suggested title in the Office Action as the new title for the application.

Prior Art Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kaji, et al. (U.S. 2002/0018136) and claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaji in view of Suzuki (U.S. 6,111,605). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, an image sensing apparatus having an image sensing unit, a focusing lens, a focus control unit, a first display device enlargement unit for applying enlargement processing to the video signal, which has been output from the image sensing unit, in such a manner, that an in-focus confirmation image, which corresponds to the focusing zone, in the image of the subject for confirming angle of view is enlarged in comparison with

the image of the subject for confirming the angle of view and a first display controlling for exercising control in such a manner that the enlarged in-focus confirmation image is displayed on the image for confirming angle of view.

Claim 8 recites, *inter alia*, a method of controlling operation of an image sensing apparatus comprising the steps of applying enlargement processing to the video signal, which has been outputted from the image sensing unit, in such a manner that an in focus confirmation image, which corresponds to the focusing zone, in the image of the subject for confirming angle of view is enlarged in comparison with the image of the subject for confirming angle of view and displaying the in-focus confirmation image that has been enlarged in such a manner that the enlarged in-focus confirmation image is displayed on the image for confirming angle of view.

As recited in each of independent claims 1 and 8, the embodiments of the present invention allow for the enlarging of a specific focusing zone within an image. The enlargement is displayed on the image itself and does not encompass the entire viewing area. Fig. 7 of applicant's disclosure illustrates an example of the enlargement of the in-focus confirmation image being displayed on the image.

The Office Action alleges that Kaji teaches applicant's claimed features. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Kaji teaches an image processing apparatus that provides a zooming function. In embodiments of Kaji, the section of an image that is designated for enlargement encompasses the entire electronic

view finder (EVF). As explained with regard to Figs. 31a and 31b at paragraphs 171 through 173, the area with a center position X is enlarged such that the center position X is in the center of the EVF and the designated area is enlarged around the center, such that the designated enlarged area encompasses the entire EVF. The enlarged area is not displayed on the image. Only the designated enlarged area is displayed on the EVF, the image from which the enlarged area is taken is not displayed.

Figs. 11 through 17 of Kaji illustrate the selection of the enlarging area of an image and the enlargement of that particular area on the view finder. When the particular area of the image is determined for enlargement, the entire image enlarges until the particular area is centered in the viewfinder. This is illustrated in Fig. 17a through Fig. 17C. Thus, the image itself is changed and not just the particular area that is enlarged.

Nowhere does Kaji teach exercising control in such a manner that the enlarged in-focus confirmation image is displayed on the image, as recited in claim 1. Further, Kaji fails to teach displaying the in-focus confirmation image that has been enlarged in such a manner that the enlarged in-focus confirmation image is displayed on the image for confirming angle of view, as recited in claim 8. Therefore, Kaji fails to anticipate each feature of the claimed invention as required under 35 U.S.C. §102.

Further, Suzuki fails to make up for the deficiencies within Kaji. Therefore, in view of the above, dependent claims 2 and 4-7 are likewise distinguishable over Kaji alone or in combination with Suzuki.

Therefore, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

### Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2 and 4-8 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant respectfully petitions for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee of \$110.00 is attached hereto.

Appl. No. 09/769,513

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s)